

MAY 8 1964
Braunschweig, May 5th 1964

Dear Joshua!

First of all excuse that I am occupying your time with my problems but I think nobody else can give me suggestions in my case than you. As you have said, since the year in Madison I am spoiled for Europe. Beside this the improvement of my personal situation here in Germany grows very slowly, the constitution of our universities makes a peculiar kind of nepotism and patronage very common. I am named of course for chairs in genetics or microbiology in Tübingen, Giessen, Kiel and Erlangen, but it is more than dubious that I am successful in any place. In end of April I met during a symposium in the institute of genetics in the university of Cologne Mr. Lauriston C. Marshall from the administrative staff of the graduate research center of the Southwest in Dallas, Texas. He is purchasing people for the new research center. My friends W. Harm and C. Bresch from Cologne and other scientists from Germany are definitely decided to go to Dallas and asked me to make the same resolution. Mr. L. C. Marshall will give his offer in three to four weeks or so. Mr. Marshall told me, that you are in the advisory council of the center and so I am sure that you are acquainted with all details and circumstances of the project. Now I would like to consult you: is it prudent and expedient to go to Dallas?

Perhaps it is important to you to know, that my work on *Pseudomonas* and *Rhizobium* is in good progress. Since one year I am working mainly with starforming *Rhizobia*, it is possible to show conjugation during starformation, to map many loci for selected and nonselected markers und to follow the pattern of the conjugation process. It seems possible that stars are convenient models to investigate the ~~recombination process since after conjugation starcells~~ become persistent zygotes and it is possible to separate them from vegetative cells.

Few weeks ago I was glad to read your article on exobiology and to see your picture in the German paper „die Zeit“. The paper has a very high edition and hence your article has informed many people. I am reading die Zeit for four years, she is still our best weekly paper I think.

In the beginning of April we have had the opportunity to met the Orskovs here. We see us about one time the year and we have a good and cordial friendship.

Since some time I am corresponding with Bruce Stocker in London. He saw my electronmicrographs on flagella and on fimbriae acting on starformation and will make slides of them for a symposium contribution on fimbriae and flagella at the A. S. U. meeting in Washington D. C. this month.

With Barbaras and my best regards to Esther and you
and all good wishes
yours

Wolfram Heumann
Bot. Inst. T. H.
33 Braunschweig
Humboldtstr. 1
Germany

